



Children Who Cannot Attend School Due to Medical Needs Policy

Approved by:	Trust Board	Date: 01.01.24
Last reviewed on:	April 2025	
Next review due by:	April 2026	

Updates and amendments

Date	Policy section	What's changed?	Why?

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Aims

This policy aims to ensure that:

- Suitable education is arranged for pupils on roll who cannot attend school due to health needs.
- Pupils, staff and parents understand that the school is responsible for when this education is being provided by the local authority.

Legislation and guidance

This policy reflects the requirements of:

- The Education Act 1996.
- Education regulations 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Section 100 of the Children and Families Act 2014

It is based on the following guidance from the DFE Guidance from 2023

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/657995f0254aaa000d050bff/Arranging_education_for_children_who_cannot_attend_school_because_of_health_needs.pdf

Responsibilities of the school

School will comply with a child's Individual Health Care Plan and provide education on site as far as possible. Once a child is absent from school for 15 days or more due to medical needs, the school will liaise with the Named Local Authority Person to discuss the next steps.

3.1 If the school make arrangements.

Initially, the school will attempt to make arrangements to deliver suitable education for children with health needs who cannot attend school.

In such cases, staff with responsibility for attendance, SEND and class-based staff will work closely. This will ensure that any child not attending school for 15 days or more due to medical needs, has access to learning such as paper-based packs or a remote learning offer, if they are well enough to access learning.

Where a child is in hospital, and accessing education through the Medical Needs Teaching service, wherever appropriate, class-based staff will liaise with hospital-based teachers.

Parents and children will be consulted throughout.

Children will be reintegrated back into school at the earliest opportunity and in line with the Child's individual Health Care Plan.

3.2 If the local authority makes arrangements.

If the school can't make suitable arrangements, Bolton LA will become responsible for arranging suitable education for these children.

Medical professionals, along with parents and school-based staff would consider whether the offer of education from school is suitable. If it is agreed that this is not the case, a referral can be made to the Medical Needs Teaching Service.

Children who cannot attend school due to medical needs.

In cases where the Local Authority makes arrangements, the school will:

- Work constructively with the local authority, providers, relevant agencies and parents to ensure the best outcomes for the pupil.
- Share information with the local authority and relevant health services as required.
- Help make sure that the provision offered to the pupil is as effective as possible and that the child can be reintegrated back into the school successfully.
- When integration is anticipated, work with the local authority to:
 - Plan for consistent provision during and after the period of education outside the school, allowing the pupil to access the same curriculum and materials that they would have used in school as far as possible.
 - Enable the pupil to stay in touch with school life (e.g. through newsletters, emails, invitation to school events).
 - Create individually tailored reintegration plans for each child returning to school.
 - Consider whether any reasonable adjustments need to be made.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by XXXX (Headteacher). At every review, it will be approved by the Local Advisory Board.

Links to other policies

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions
- Equality objectives / policy
- Accessibility plan
- SEND policy.
- Attendance policy
- Remote Learning policy